

**Department of Natural Resources
Timber Report
Second Quarter Fiscal Year (FY) 2012-13**

Background

Michigan's state forest system was originally certified under both the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) and the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) third-party forest certification standards in December 2005. Michigan successfully re-certified under both standards in December 2010.

Forest certification protocols require public participation in forest management planning and forest operations. The Department of Natural Resources (Department) compartment review process has been audited by both the SFI and the FSC and has been recognized as a key public participation mechanism that meets requirements for forest certification.

The Department's investment in forest certification strengthens Michigan's forest products sector. Certification is essential in order for primary wood producers in Michigan to have continued access to national and international markets.

Second Quarter FY 2012-13 Timber Treatments

State forest planning and activities, including timber treatments, are conducted within the framework of SFI and FSC forest certification principles and standards. Timber treatments in a given year are based on decisions made two years prior to the treatments through the compartment review process. Additional treatments are approved, in particular, when timber salvage is feasible because of fire or insect and disease impacts.

The FY 2012-13 plan of work currently identifies 77,768 acres for timber sale preparation that were approved through the compartment review process. Many of these acres are prescribed because of the impact of Emerald Ash Borer and Beech Bark Disease. In some cases, these acres are being prepared ahead of the normal schedule. Managers have developed work plans to prepare 72,000 acres for sale. Due to the lack of resources, the other 5,768 acres are not expected to be completed this year and will be added to next year's plan.

Timber sale preparation is done by Department staff and through timber marking contracts with private consultants. In the second quarter of FY 2012-13, 4,968 acres of timber sale preparation-marking contracts were awarded, bringing the total for the year to 8,073 acres. No more preparation-marking contracts are expected to be awarded this fiscal year. Through two quarters, the Department has prepared 140 timber sale proposals, accounting for 17,506 acres and an estimated volume of 236,800 cords.

Of the 168 sales offered for bid in the second quarter, 149 sold on their initial offering. This 11% no-bid percentage is the same as the first quarter, but significantly higher than the whole of FY 2011-12, where about 5% of sales received no bids. Of the 38 sales that received no bids this fiscal year, 24 have since sold.

FY 2012-13	Total sales offered in the quarter	Offerings with no bids	Percent (%) of sales that were no-bid
1 st quarter	180	19	11%
2 nd quarter	168	19	11%
Total	348	38	11%